

More sports, law, and military news...

Award-winning USAF Band of Mid-America announces its FREE Tennessee Concert Series; Scheidt Family Performing Arts Center on UofM campus will host event on November 5

Scott Air Force Base, IL - The US Air Force Band of Mid-America's Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble will present a series of concerts in Tennessee:

- 4 Nov, 10:30 AM CST – Overton High School Masterclass (1770 Lanier Ln, Memphis TN, 38117)
- 5 Nov, 7:00 PM CST – Scheidt Family Performing Arts Center (University of Memphis, 3800 Central Ave, Memphis, TN)
- 6 Nov, 7:30 PM CST – Nashville Jazz Workshop (1012 Buchanan St, Nashville, TN)
- 7 Nov, 7:00 PM EST – Paramount Bristol (518 State St, Bristol, TN)
- 8 Nov, 3:00 PM EST – Clayton Center for the Arts Ronald and Lynda Nutt Theater (502 E Lamar Alexander PKWY, Maryville, TN)
- 9 Nov, 7:00 PM CST– The Historic Palace Theatre (72 S Main St, Crossville, TN)
- 10 Nov, 7:00 PM EST – Niswonger Performing Arts Center (212 Tusculum BLVD, Greeneville, TN)
- 11 Nov, 7:00 PM EST– UTC Roland Hayes Concert Hall (752 Vine St, Chattanooga, TN)

ALL CONCERTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble



The Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble performs a variety of styles, ranging from traditional big band jazz to bebop, swing, and modern jazz. At one of their concerts, you are just as likely to hear the music of contemporary composers as you would the classic sounds of Count Basie or Glenn Miller.

The ensemble has backed many jazz greats such as Jamey Aebersold, Bobby Shew, Allen Vizzutti, and Jeff Jarvis, and is often requested for featured performances at jazz clinics and festivals throughout the country. Several of the band’s members are also

gifted composers and arrangers, and their compositions are often featured in concert.

Whether performing for a head of state, before a capacity crowd in the 10-state touring area, or for our troops at home or abroad, the Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble reflects the heritage and pride of our great nation and the United States Air Force.

Organizer and parent organization: The United States Air Force Band of Mid-America represents the professionalism and excellence found every day through-

out the United States Air Force. All musicians are active-duty airmen stationed at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. The band recently won the 2022 NATAS Mid-America Emmy for Arts & Entertainment Long Form Content for their “Spirit of the Season” holiday program that was broadcast on over 100 national TV stations.

USAF Band of Mid-America

The United States Air Force Band of Mid-America is the prin-

cipal musical ambassador of Headquarters Air Mobility Command. These talented Air Force musicians have had the distinction of performing for Pope John Paul II, Presidents George W. Bush, William J. Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Jimmy Carter, the Queen of the Netherlands, and hundreds of other US and foreign leaders.

The band performs free civic outreach and recruiting concerts for audiences throughout the Midwest, playing more than 400 engagements each year. In its broader travels, the band has per-

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formed in New York City, Philadelphia, Seattle, the Gulf Coast, Germany, the Netherlands, Costa Rica, Barbados, Grenada, Guatemala, Venezuela, Bolivia, Brazil, and the Azores.

Whether recording or performing for live, radio, and television audiences, band members reflect Air Force excellence to millions of people each year.

Social Media Outlets:

Website
Facebook
Instagram
YouTube
AFBandTix

Support those who protect you in America’s Military!

Administrative Office of the Courts announces Laura Brown as Director of the Access, Innovation & Community Engagement Division to lead the initiative to strengthen Tennessee’s communities

Nashville, Tenn. – The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is pleased to announce that Laura Brown has joined the AOC as the Director of the Access, Innovation & Community Engagement (AICE) Division. Brown will lead statewide initiatives that support access to justice, strengthen community partnerships, and expand innovative approaches to meeting the legal needs of Tennesseans. “Laura’s commitment to service and her dedication to building relationships make her an outstanding choice to lead the AICE Division. Her leadership will strengthen our ongoing efforts to ensure that every person—regardless of circumstance—has meaningful access to justice in our state,” said Chief Justice Jeff

Bivins. The AICE Division supports critical programs like the Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission, Access to Justice Commission, and language access and court interpreter services. As AICE transitions to new leadership, the AOC expresses its appreciation for the professionalism and collaboration shown by partners and stakeholders. “Laura brings an energetic spirit to this important role,” said AOC Director Michelle Long. “Her background in legal services, public policy, and nonprofit leadership uniquely position her to guide AICE’s work advancing access to justice across Tennessee.” Brown joins the AOC with more than 21 years of experience spanning

legal practice, nonprofit leadership, public policy, and executive management. She most recently served as Executive Director of the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services (TALS), a statewide nonprofit organization focused on expanding access to justice. In that role, she provided strategic and organizational leadership and worked to strengthen legal services and improve outcomes for individuals facing barriers to justice. “I am excited to join the dedicated AICE team,” said Brown. “I am deeply committed to the continued development of innovative and impactful access to justice solutions for individuals and communities across our state.” Brown’s career also includes

service as Senior Deputy Director of Client Services at the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland, and as General Counsel for both the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability and Goodwill Industries—Knoxville, Inc. Brown has taught as an adjunct professor at Belmont University College of Law and Lincoln Memorial University Duncan School of Law. Brown holds a J.D. from the University of Tennessee College of Law, a Ph.D. in Learning and Leadership (Public Policy) from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, an M.A. in Civic Leadership from Lipscomb University, and a B.S. in English Education from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Wrap-Up!

Memphis Grizzlies conclude Grizz Goes Back to School Campaign in Mid-South

– Grizzlies Celebrate Students and Educators Across the Mid-South –

Memphis, Tenn. – The Memphis Grizzlies recently celebrated the conclusion of the team’s annual Grizz Goes Back to School campaign, aimed to encourage and excite students and educators across the Mid-South ahead of the upcoming school year. Each year, Grizzlies personnel, players, coaches and corporate partners emphasize the importance of education and promote back-to-school spirit through numerous community events.

The annual program tipped-off on Tuesday, July 21, with Grizzlies forward GG Jackson II hosting a Groom & Grind event at the Buckman Boys & Girls Club. Jackson II treated 100 kids to a day filled with basketball ac-

tivities, inflatables, craft stations and more. Each kid was provided with a backpack filled with school supplies to prepare for the upcoming school year.

On Wednesday, July 22, Grizzlies Connect volunteers packed backpacks with various school supplies for over 900 children at the Raleigh Library, one of several Memphis Public Libraries, with the backpacks distributed to local families in need on Saturday, July 25.

Grizzlies forward Taylor Hendricks also hosted 100 kids at the Buckman Boys & Girls Club on Thursday, July 23, playing basketball games and providing each kid with a gift card to purchase back-to-school supplies.

Grizzlies Connect volunteers Please see sports-ent.6

SAF urges Supreme Court to reject lifetime gun ban for non-violent felons from sports-Military 2

disarmed dangerous people. We did not strip the Second Amendment right from those who broke the law without violence and then went back to living as ordinary, peaceable citizens. A permanent ban with no path to restoration is simply not how our tradition worked.” Colonial and Founding-era restrictions targeted people thought to pose a threat: wartime enemies, rebels and those with a proven proclivity for violence. Ratifying conventions spoke of “peaceable citizens” and of disarmament only for those “in actual rebellion” or who presented “real danger of public injury.” After Shays’s Rebellion, Massachusetts required rebels to surrender arms and then allowed

them to reclaim those arms within months. Militia laws required able-bodied men to keep arms and contained no exemption for prior nonviolent convictions. Some statutes even expressly protected criminals’ arms from seizure for debt. “A conviction for a nonviolent offense should not automatically require a lifetime forfeiture of a person’s right to keep and bear arms,” said SAF Executive Director Adam Kraut. “The historical tradition as applied here requires only those who are deemed “dangerous” be disarmed. A nonviolent felony mistake should not require a lifetime ban on exercising someone’s Second Amendment rights. We encourage the Court to grant this

petition and make clear that § 922(g)(1) cannot be applied to peaceable people the historical tradition never disarmed.” For more information visit SAF.org. The Second Amendment Foundation (saf.org) is the nation’s oldest and largest tax-exempt education, research, publishing and legal action group dedicated to safeguarding and promoting the fundamental rights of individuals enshrined in the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution. SAF engages in aggressive legal action to ensure the principles of armed self-defense, personal liberty, and the ownership of arms are defended, secured, and restored.

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